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Dec
12/14/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Bloom *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/227,742

Filed: January 8, 1999

For: **Method for Increasing Viability
and Transformation Efficiency
of Bacteria During Storage at
Low Temperatures**

Confirmation No. 7763

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Yucel, I.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4770003/RWESM

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Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended three (3) months from September 5, 2001 to December 5, 2001 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$920.00 for a three (3) month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying Check No. 33435. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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12/06/2001 CCHAU1 00000052 09227742

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920.00 OP

Date: Dec. 5, 2001

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